

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 00557 251532Z
ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCA-01 SCS-03 CPR-01 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 H-01 DHA-02 /031 W
-----251647Z 038446 /65

R 251450Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6203
INFO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: CGEN, TU
SUBJECT: US/GOT CONSULAR CONVENTION

REF: 76 STATE 299668

1. AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE THREE CONSTITUENT
CONSULATES IN TURKEY, EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS
REGARDING THE RESUMPTION OF ACTIVE NEGOTIATIONS LOOKING
TOWARD A US/GOT CONSULAR CONVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. GOT IS STILL STUDYING TEXT OF US-MEXICAN TREATY ON
PRISONER EXCHANGE AND HAS NOT YET MADE DECISION AS TO
WHETHER IT WISHES TO NEGOTIATE A SIMILAR TREATY WITH US
(ANKARA 0479). SHOULD GOT INDICATE A DESIRE TO NEGOTIATE
SUCH A TREATY, WE BELIEVE THAT THESE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD
TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER CONSULAR CONVENTION NEGOTIATIONS.
DESPITE THEIR SMALL NUMBER, AMERICAN PRISONERS IN TURKISH
JAILS CONSITUTE A MAJOR CONSULAR PROBLEM FOR US HERE
AND GENERATE THE MOST CONGRESSIONAL, STATE GOVERNOR, AND
PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE. MOREOVER, MEXICAN TREATY ROUTE
HAS BEEN DETERMINED TO BE THE MOST PRACTICABLE APPROACH
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FOR RESOLUTION OF HUMANITARIAN PROBLEM CREATED BY
INORDINATELY LONG SENTENCES IN SUB-STANDARD TURKISH
PRISONS.

B. ONCE GOT HAS COME TO DECISION RE MEXICAN TREATY, WE
COULD SHORTLY THEREAFTER APPROACH FONOFF WITH PROPOSAL TO
RESUME NEGOTIATIONS ON A CONSULAR CONVENTION. ASSUMING

GOT RESPONSE RE MEXICAN-TYPE TREATY IS FAVORABLE, AND US/GOT NEGOTIATIONS ARE GOING FORWARD, EMBASSY WOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH CARRYING ON NEGOTIATIONS FOR BOTH TREATY AND CONVENTION SIMULTANEOUSLY.

C. OUR OWN INTERESTS IN NEGOTIATING CONSULAR CONVENTION INCLUDE, AS REFTEL INDICATES, ESTABLISHING A LEGAL BASIS FOR GOT'S NOTIFYING US OF DETENTION OF US CITIZENS AND GUARANTEEING ACCESS TO THEM WITHIN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME. PRESENT PRACTICES OF THE GOT IN THIS AREA ARE FAIRLY GOOD. SUCH BRIEF DELAYS AS WE HAVE EXPERIENCED HAVE ARISEN IN CASES WHERE US CITIZENS HAVE BEEN DETAINED IN REMOTE PROVINCIAL AREAS. PROBLEM HAS BEEN PRIMARILY ONE OF GOT'S OWN INADEQUATE INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS RATHER THAN GOT INTENTIONS. IT WOULD DO NO HARM IF NOTIFICATION AND ACCESS REQUIREMENTS UNDERScoreD IN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT, HOWEVER.

D. OF EQUAL IMPORTANCE AMONG ADVANTAGES TO BE GAINED FROM US/GOT CONSULAR CONVENTION WOULD BE BETTER PROTECTION AFFORDED TO US CONSULAR PERSONNEL AND THEIR DEPENDENTS IN TURKEY. TURKS ARE NOW LOATH TO GO BEYOND VIENNA CONVENTION WHICH ACCORDS CERTAIN PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES TO CONSULAR PERSONNEL BUT IS SILENT ON THE SUBJECT OF THEIR DEPENDENTS. WE BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO CONVINCE THE TURKS OF THE MUTUAL ADVANTAGE OF REGULARIZING THE STATUS OF BOTH THEIR AND OR CONSULAR PERSONNEL AND THEIR DEPENDENTS WITHIN OUR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES.

2. EMBASSY WILL BE MAKING FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TIMING OF APPROACH RE CONSULAR CONVENTION AS SOON AS WE KNOW TURKISH ATTITUDE TOWARD MEXICAN-TYPE PRISONER EXCHANGE TREATY.
MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
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Sent Date: 25-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770122/aaaaatgm.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 08072bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION L
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 299668
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3516336
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US/GOT CONSULAR CONVENTION
TAGS: CGEN, TU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/08072bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009